

MINUTES AND REPORT

OF

MEETING OF COUNCIL

OF

THE COOPERATIVE FEDERATION OF VICTORIA

held at 225 Swanston Street, Melbourne on Monday, 21st July 1980 commencing 7 p.m.

1. PRESENT:

Mr. M. Rundle	President
Mr. J. N. Black	
Mr. A. Dash	
Mr. E. J. Long	
Mr. B. H. Macintosh	
Mr. J. Rigby	
Mr. W. W. Rawlinson	Executive Officer

Apologies for non-attendance were received from
Messrs. K. D. Currey and O. J. Slattery.

2. MINUTES:

Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 1980, having been circulated,
were confirmed and adopted as a correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING:

3.i Minute 4.i - Co-operation Booklet.

Mr. Griffiths indicated first draft will be
available for study before end of July 1980.

3.ii Minute 4.ii - Cooperative Accounting Programme.

The Executive Officer attended this programme
organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants
and addressed by the Registrar's senior assistant.

4. CORRESPONDENCE:

4.i From Minister - re consultation on new legislation proposed to be
introduced into Parliament in 1980 Spring Session.

4.ii From County Education Project Planning Committee
- re formation of Cooperatives in rural schools.

4.iii Truckin Life - June 1980 issue - Article on Cooperatives which
has produced three enquiries.

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4.iv V.C.C.A. - Promotional material for politicians re policies for Credit Unions.

4.v V.C.C.A. - Invitation to Annual General Meeting.
Mr. Long reported on attendance as representative of the Federation. The Meeting was opened by the Minister who referred to the introduction of a revised Cooperation Act and also to the possibility of the inspectoral section of the Housing Ministry being transferred from the Cooperative Registry of his Department to the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs.

4.vi To Mr. L. McLoughlan - forwarding cheque (as agreed at February 1980 Council meeting) and appreciation for supervision of June Planning Workshop.

5. FINANCIAL:

Draft accounts for financial year ending 30th June 1980, as submitted for audit, were presented to the meeting.

Council directed that (i) expenditure item "Provision for Bad Debts" should be amended to "Services". (ii) Balance Sheet items "Debtors" should be reduced by \$550 and "Provision for Doubtful Debts" deleted.

Council directed that the accounts for publication and circulation at the Annual General Meeting should be endorsed to the effect of

"Expenditure items are a shared cost with the Cooperative Federation of Australia"

The accounts were received and adopted subject to audit certification.

6. MEMBERSHIP:

6.i Application

Application for membership of the Federation was received from

Numurkah, East Goulburn H.I. Cooperative Ltd.

a Producer Cooperative incorporated under the Cooperation Act.

The application, supported by Rules, Annual Report, and relevant entry fee was declared in order.

The applicant was admitted into membership for the financial year ending 30th June 1981.

6.ii Resignation

Advice received from

The Federation of Cooperative Housing Societies of Victoria of withdrawal from membership as from 30th June 1980.

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Council noted this resignation with regret and directed the Housing Societies be invited to reconsider in the light of possible legislative and administrative changes foreshadowed by the Minister which could require a strong united front to oppose.

7. ANNUAL REPORT:

Council considered a draft report on the Federation's activities in the financial year ending 30th June 1980. Subject to one amendment it was agreed the report be printed and given wide circulation.

8. LEGISLATION:

The President reported that subsequent to the last meeting of Council advice has been received from the Registrar, of the Government's intention to prepare a new Cooperative Act rather than introduce into Parliament a long series of amendments to the current Act. The legislation Committee had considered recommendations received from member Cooperatives and incorporated these with others, including those of the V.C.C.A. in 47 proposals of matters to be included in new Cooperation Act.

The Committee had met and discussed the proposals with the Registrar.

The proposals were presented to Council and endorsed.

The Registrar and Minister have indicated further consultation will be held before the re-written legislation is enacted in Parliament.

Council directed V.C.C.A. should be advised of the proposals.

Council considered the implications of a transfer of Cooperative Registry functions to the Corporate Affairs Commission as mentioned by the Minister to the V.C.C.A. Annual General Meeting.

Council agreed:

the Federation should take early and all necessary action to ensure a continuance of the Government recognition of separate administration of Cooperative legislation.

The legislation Committee was directed to prepare a submission to the Minister setting out its views for consideration of the next meeting.

Council further directed the situation of Cooperative Registries, vis a vis Corporate Affairs Commission Administration of Cooperatives be ascertained from other Australian States.

9. REGIONAL MEETINGS:

9.i The meeting at Shepparton was held as planned on 24th June 1980, chaired by Mr. Long, and was well attended.

The meeting at Mildura on 15th July 1980 was chaired by Mr. Rundle and was equally successful.

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- 9.ii Council agreed the round of Regional Meetings should be continued in 1980/81 with dates to be set after consultation with local Cooperative leaders. It was agreed these meetings must have a Federation service to market. Proposals advanced included

Centralised Banking Services
Superannuation Fund

10. 1980 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Council agreed the 1980 Annual Conference should be held on Tuesday, 28th October 1980, at the Theatrette, Victorian Government Expo Centre - rental \$70-00.

The Hon. I. H. Smith, M.P., Minister for Agriculture be invited to be official opener.

Four papers to be presented.

Lunch and morning tea to be provided.

Costs to be covered by registration fees.

Major Cooperatives, e.g. Cooperative Insurance to be approached with a view to obtaining sponsorship contributory support.

Messrs. Rigby and Slattery were appointed as Conference Planning Committee.

The President reminded Council that the Conference would be followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Federation to be followed by the October Council Meeting.

Mr. Rundle gave notice of his intention to stand down as President of the Federation and would not accept renomination.

11. CORPORATE PLAN:

The plan devised 8th June 1980 was issued to each Councillor.

- 11(i) Centralised Banking (Minute 6.ii June Council Meeting)

An invitation issued to Mr. L. Robinson, N.S.W., to visit Melbourne on 21st July 1980, to outline experiences and progression in that State and proposals for promotion in Victoria, could not be accepted due to illness.

- 11(ii) Federal Election Programme (Action Serial No.11)

This has been included in Agenda for C.F.A. Council Meeting July 1980.

- 11(iii) Newsletters of Cooperatives

Renewal of membership letter invites submission of newsletters.

12. COOPERATION IN SCHOOLS:

14(i):

12(i) Minute 3(ii) June Meeting

Community Advancement Cooperatives in Schools with guarantees under the Cooperation Act still to be circulated.

12(ii) Marcellin College

An informal cooperative of 19 students set up with activities including

Cleaning windows
Soup stalls
Toy making
Card printing

13. REPORTS:

13(i) Advisory Council

Mr. Long reported attending the July meeting of the Council at which the main business was consideration of Government guarantees. The proposed new Cooperation Act was discussed.

13(ii) Executive Officer

Mr. Rawlinson reported the majority of time since the last meeting of Council had been spent on administrative end of financial year matters for the two Federations.

He had met with the Chairman, Edenhope Cooperative.

13(iv) Cooperative Federation of Australia

The decision of Council in Minute 10.i of the June 1980 meeting was advised to the Cooperative Federation of Western Australia, whose representatives subsequently visited N.S.W. and Queensland on 3rd July and Melbourne on 4th July for talks with M/s. Slattery, Long, Macintosh.

Executive Officers of N.S.W., W.A. and Victoria met in Melbourne on 10th July and agreed a discussion paper for presentation to the C.F.A. July Council meeting.

14. OTHER BUSINESS:

14(i) Director Training Seminar

The Executive Officer reported 8 nominations had been received and the seminar would proceed on 23rd and 24th July as scheduled.

Mr. Dash submitted his name for the August seminar as a non-residential participant.

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14(ii) Federation Office

Council and Federation staff accept the relocated Federation office as a satisfactory venue.

Council directed a formal lease arrangement be entered into with Security Cooperative Permanent Building Society to ensure some permanency of tenure.

15. NEXT MEETING:

This was set for Monday, 18th August 1980 at the Federation's office.

16. CLOSURE:

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.50 p.m.

